Sharing of Sports Contract

1506. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that private broadcasters have strongly opposed a proposal that seeks to make it mandatory for them to share sports contract with Prasar Bharati;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) A proposal is under consideration of the Government regarding mandatory sharing of terrestrial telecast rights of sporting events of national importance by the rights holders with Prasar Bharati. The Government has engaged the major sports channel and Sports Rights management companies in a dialogue to evolve or at least to optimise consensus.

Uplinking policy for TV channels

1507. SHRI RAMA MUNISIRIGI REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a Group of Ministers to study the uplinking policy for TV channels proposed by his Ministry.

(b) whether any representations have been received from stakeholders for studying the entire uplinking policy proposed by Government;

(c) if so, the details of the representations made and the persons/ organisations from which they have received; and

(d) whether the uplinking has been permitted through KU band?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Government have constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) to examine the proposal for Review of Uplinking Policy and finalise its recommendations.

(b) and (c) A representation has been received from major sports channels regarding the proposal for the mandatory sharing with Prasar Bharati of telecast rights of events of national importance.

(d) No, Sir. The channels are allowed to uplink through teleports in the C-band at present.

Channel for science and technology

1508. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a separate channel exclusively for science and technology using satellites launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the aim and area likely to be covered by the said channel?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Department of Science and Technology has informed that there is no such proposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. However, programme on Science and Technology are given special importance in all channels.

Crime Reports on TV channels

1509. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the regular 'Crime Reports' on major TV channels sensationalising crimes;

(b) if so, whether any analysis has been made by the concerned agencies about the impact of such serials on the society; and

(c) the steps taken to regulate the contents of TV 'Crime Reports'?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) No analysis has been made by the Government about the impact on society of 'Crime Reports' telecast by several major TV channels. However, all programmes and advertisements